



2153  
DOCKET NO.: E0295.70066US00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

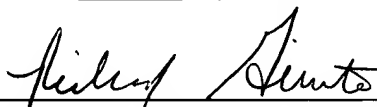
Applicant: Steven M. Blumenau et al.  
Serial No.: 09/107,618  
Confirmation No.: 8313  
Filed: June 30, 1998  
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING DATA  
MANAGEMENT FOR A STORAGE SYSTEM COUPLED TO A  
NETWORK

Examiner: Dinh, Dung C.  
Art Unit: 2153

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 8 day of December, 2004.

  
Richard F. Giunta, Reg. No. 36,149

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**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

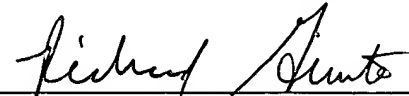
Transmitted herewith are the following documents:

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO 1449 and References Cited
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 720-3500, Boston, Massachusetts.

A check is not enclosed. If a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Steven M. Blumenau et al., Applicant*

By:   
Richard F. Giunta, Reg. No.: 36,149  
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.  
600 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2211  
Telephone: (617)720-3500

Docket No. E0295.70066US00 RFG  
Date: December 8, 2004  
xNDDx



DOCKET NO.: E0295.70066US00

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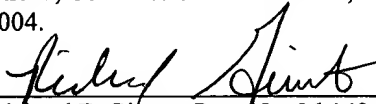
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**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF  
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

**PART I: Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97**

This Information Disclosure Statement has been filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114.

No fee or certification is required.

PART II: Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

PART III: Explanation of Non-English Language References and Remarks Concerning Other Information Cited

The following is a concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified):

The three Japanese patents were cited in a corresponding application pending in Japan. The Japanese associate handling the prosecution of those applications provided partial translations of each of these references. Copies of these partial translations are provided herewith.

PART IV: Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

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By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

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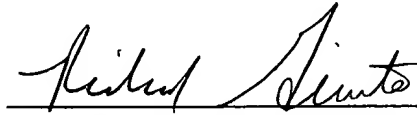
Art Unit: 2153

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Steven M. Blumenau et al., Applicant*

By:



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Telephone: (617) 646-8000

Docket No.: E0295.70066US00  
Date: December 8, 2004  
**xNDDx**



FORM PTO-1449/A and B (Modified)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

<b>Sheet</b> 1 <b>of</b> 1	APPLICATION NO.: 09/107,618	ATTY. DOCKET NO.: E0295.70066US00
	FILING DATE: June 30, 1998	CONFIRMATION NO.: 8313
	APPLICANT: Steven M. Blumenau et al.	
	GROUP ART UNIT: 2153	EXAMINER: Dinh, Dung C.

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		
	A1	6,484,245	B1	Sanada et al.	11-19-2002
	A2	6,526,489	B1	Kikuchi et al.	02-25-2003

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/ Country	Number	Kind Code			
	B1	JP	4-64985		Sharp Corp.	02-28-1992	Y
	B2	JP	5-181609		NEC Corporation	07-23-1993	Y
	B3	JP	7-325785		Fujitsu Ltd.	12-12-1995	Y

EXAMINE R	DATE CONSIDERED
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#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

\*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. \_\_, filed \_\_, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE - The Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003. See 37 CFR 1.491(b). For all patent applications filed on or before June 30, 2003, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are still required unless an eIDS is filed. Copies of all other patent(s), publication(s), or other information listed must still be provided, even if it was previously submitted to, or cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in an earlier application, unless the earlier application is identified by the IDS and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120, and the copy was provided in the earlier application.]